

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments, and consideration of the application, as amended.

By this amendment, the Applicants submit the identical amendment as those file on 04 August 2005. Namely, the Applicants have amended claims 21, 29, and 35 by introducing the limitations of allowable claim 34 into these independent claims. In making these amendments, the Applicants deleted the word "circular" from the limitation recited in claim 34. Claims 27, 33, 34, and 36 were cancelled. No new matter was introduced.

Claims 21-26, 28-32, 35, and 37-40 continue to be pending in this application.

Response to Advisory Action

In the above-referenced Advisory Action, the Patent Office declined entry of the amendments submitted on 04 August 2005 because "[t]he substance of claim 34 has not been considered in the environment of claims 21 and 35." With the submittal of this RCE, the Applicants request that these amendments now be considered.

Also, in the above-referenced Advisory Action the Patent Office deemed the Amendment filed on 4 August 2005 "non-compliant." In a subsequent phone conversation with Examiner Phillips on 1 September 2005, the Applicants' undersigned Agent learned that this non-compliance was due to the use of an incorrect claim status identifier for claim 35. The Applicants believe that this oversight is addressed in the above amendment.


The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation Examiner Phillips' assistance in advancing this application to allowance.

Applicants believe that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits of the application is requested.

Application No.: 10/656,012
Amendment dated 6 September 2005
Reply to Advisory Action 8 August 2005

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants' undersigned Agent invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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